

REPORT (PART II)

ON

NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS IN BENGAL
FOR THE

Week ending Saturday, 29th June 1901.

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I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

1784. Under this heading the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* publishes the rules of the Katipunan Society, to which the Phillipino patriots are said to owe their liberty.

How the Phillipinos organised the National Movement for liberty.

AMRITA BAZAR
Patrika,
16th June 1901.

1785. The following paragraph appears in the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* :—

Boer surrenders explained.

Dutch refugees who have arrived at Pretoria

from Petersburg say the reason that there have been so many Boer surrenders recently, is because Commander-in-Chief Botha wishes to get rid of his weak fighters, who, instead of helping him, are an incumbrance. These refugees say that General Botha recently made an address to the burghers in which he stated that he wished to retain only those who are willing to fight to the finish.

1786. The *Bengalee* expresses great indignation at the insolent treatment

Treatment of Indian troops by the Europeans in China.

afforded to Indians by the European soldiers in China. "Indian troops are in no way inferior to

the flower of the troops of the Continental Powers, and in certain respects are decidedly superior to the latter. Yet they were called coolies, and snubbed and sneered at by men, most of whom were among the scum of Europe. None but the brave can appreciate the brave; and we cannot think much of the soldierly qualities of men who are incapable of looking upon the Indian soldier as a comrade and brother."

AMRITA BAZAR
Patrika,
16th June 1901.

BENGALEE,
22nd June 1901.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

1787. The *Bengalee* of the 16th publishes in full Mr. Knyvett's circular letter to District Superintendents calling for

Police reforms. opinions on certain points in his scheme for Police reorganisation, and appeals to Lord Curzon to invite the opinion of all public bodies.

"Official opinion is, no doubt, of great value, but constituted as our Government is, it does not represent popular opinion, and as, of all measures of Government, those concerning the Police affect the people most, it is but just that their representatives should be consulted."

1788. *Power and Guardian*, referring to the reorganisation of the Bengal

Ibid.

Police, believes that Mr. A. V. Knyvett, Deputy Inspector-General, who has been entrusted with

the task, has begun well. It reminds its contemporaries that "they should support Mr. Knyvett by wise, feasible suggestions, such as he may possibly accept. The mere question as to the usefulness of Europeans as a supervising agency, or the fact of Europeans being in such positions in other provinces, must not be made the pretext for finding fault with this transparent desire of the Government to find out the best way to reorganise the Police force We believe the best thing the press and public can do at this juncture is to answer the questions put by Mr. Knyvett in his circular letter to District Superintendents. It is, we believe, this habit of fault finding with everything official . . . that has brought the native press to the sorry pass that its voice so often goes unheard. Carping criticism or indiscriminate abuse will not and cannot serve our interests."

BENGALEE,
16th June 1901.

POWER AND GUAR-
DIAN,
16th June 1901.

1789. The Burdwan correspondent of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* complains

Beggars in Burdwan.

of the enormous increase in number of beggars, chiefly of the *Sanyasi* class, who have taken up

their permanent residence on the banks of the Sagars in the Burdwan town. They are sure of daily doles of rice and other necessaries from the Maharaja's Golabari, but they beg from house to house and demand alms "with threatening look," and are also suspected of having something to do with the way-laying of travellers in sequestered parts of the town, and with thefts which are of frequent occurrence in Burdwan. The local police are invited to keep an eye on them.

BENGALEE,
19th June 1901.

NOTE.—The District Superintendent of Burdwan has been addressed on the subject.

BEHAR NEWS,
21st June 1901.

1790. "Policemen in India," says the *Bengalee* "are a favoured class; they enjoy immunities which other mortals can never dream of."

The writer proceeds to comment on the order of the Burdwan district Magistrate that no proceedings are to be instituted against Police officers without his sanction, and cites a case of last year from the Khulna district, in which a Deputy Magistrate "had the courage to censure the local police in connection with a railway case. In this case the District Magistrate, determined to whitewash the police, under the pretext of revising the order of discharge passed by the Deputy Magistrate sent for the records, and endeavoured to palliate the action of the police by putting in a plea of justification.

The article goes on to criticise the action of the District Magistrate of Khulna in a recent case in which some constables of his district were charged with preventing other passengers from entering a railway carriage in which they were travelling. The Magistrate is said to have wired to Barasat for postponement of the case, his object being to get the case transferred to the file of one of his own deputies.

This is followed by another column of complaints against the acts of Mr. Foley of Burdwan in cases where the police are in fault.

"Everywhere," says the *Bengalee*, "the same tale is told of official pampering of Mr. Red-Turban, of glossing over his faults, and supporting him when he is clearly at fault."

(b)—*Working of the Courts.*

BENGALEE,
14th June 1901

1791. "Another member of the Bar" writes to the *Bengalee* in defence of Mr. Abdur Rahim, the Northern Division Magistrate, who has been accused, among other things, of refusing applications for process, warrant or adjournment except on very good grounds. The effect of Mr. Rahim's firm attitude in this respect has been the loss of income to many legal practitioners in the Police Court, and this consideration alone has given rise to the complaint in the press. But the correspondent holds that Mr. Rahim deserves the gratitude of all honest and right-thinking men for protecting as he does the interests of the public whose servant he is.

1792. In commenting on the judgment of Justices Ghose and Taylor in the appeal of Ghuta Pramanick of Pabna, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* remarks that that law which compels a Judge to award a higher punishment than the culprit deserves, is a monstrous one and ought to be expunged from the Statute book without delay. The writer touches on the "blood-thirstiness" of such a law, and recalls a still more shocking case which occurred a few years back in Krishnagar, Nadia, in which a Mussalman was sentenced to death for murdering his children, although the crime was shown to have been committed in a state of insanity.

A practically innocent man was sent to the gallows because the Sessions Judge accepted some words uttered by the man at the time of the crime as proof that the latter was aware of the nature of his crime.

BENGALEE,
16th June 1901.

1793. Beginning a lengthy dissertation on this subject with the assurance that the verdict of public opinion in regard to the Sullivan case is that there was a gross failure of justice, the *Bengalee* refers to the case recently disposed of by Mr. Justice Chunder Madhub Ghose and Mr. Justice Taylor, in which, like the Sullivan case, the plea of insanity was raised and in which the learned Judges upheld the conviction and confirmed the sentence of transportation for life. The accused belonged to a family of lunatics, in fact he had himself been insane only a week before he committed the murder, and there was a strong presumption that he was insane at the time of the commission of the crime, but as there was no proof that this was the case, the plea was not admitted.

As this strict proof of insanity was not insisted upon in the Sullivan case, in accordance with law and precedent, the *Bengalee* trusts that in the exercise of a wise discretion, the Local Government will rectify the deplorable judicial blunder which has been committed in the Sullivan case by the highest tribunal in the land.

1794. The Burdwan correspondent of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes, Mr. Foley and the Burdwan Police. "If police rule prevails everywhere in Bengal, it does so with a vengeance in Burdwan. In Burdwan, the relation between the Magistrate and the Police is of the tenderest kind. Mr. Foley would not permit anybody to touch a hair of the policeman."

The correspondent complains that Mr. Foley has issued an order forbidding Subordinate Magistrates to entertain complaints of any kind against Police officers without his sanction. Deputy Magistrate, Mr. Kadir, has just been transferred to Mymensingh because he did not pull well with Mr. Foley. Complaint is also made of the lenient treatment meted out by Mr. Foley to a Sub-Inspector of Police, who was charged with trespassing into the local post-office. The charges against the Sub-Inspector were serious, and the District Superintendent of Police himself recommended severe punishment. Yet the Magistrate disposed of the case departmentally.

1795. *Power and Guardian* describes the occurrence at the Benases Railway station, for which Major Cartwright was recently fined Rs. 10 (*vide* para. 1742), as follows:—

The case of assault by Major Cartwright. "The man Ganga entered a first-class compartment in which was his master to bring out the latter's luggage, and the moment he entered the compartment, Major Cartwright flew at him like a tiger-cat, and pushing him out of the carriage gave him sundry cuffs and kicks before those on the platform could interfere."

The punishment is considered altogether inadequate. The Indians have nothing to hope for in the shape of justice in cases where Europeans are the accused, "and certainly no one will have the heart and hardihood to blame them, when after suffering patiently for a time, they learn to take the law in their own hands, a contingency which the alien rulers ought to provide against after the lessons taught by history and experience."

1796. The representation submitted by the Chamber of Commerce to the Government of India complaining of the large accumulation of arrears on the Original Side of the High Court is, says the *Hindoo Patriot*, a very

Arrears in the Original Side of the High Court. thoughtful one and pregnant with facts and figures. The Committee's letters show that even if there were no fresh institution of cases for three years, the arrears would not be worked off.

"The state of affairs in the High Court admits of immediate reforms, and no pecuniary consideration should be allowed to stand in the way of their immediate introduction."

1797. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* takes up the case of one Mahamed Ali, Hajut for cutting a branch of a tree. who has been remanded to *hajut*, bail being refused, for cutting a branch from a *neem* tree. The tree was overhanging the accused's compound, and he had received permission from the Subdivisional Officer to cut off a particular branch. For cutting off more than the one branch, he was first charged with mischief. While this case was being instituted, Mahamed Ali was said to have cut another branch, whereupon a case under section 379 was instituted against him.

1798. The discharge of Gunner Daly of the 22nd Field Battery, who The case of Gunner Daly. stood charged with causing the death of a syce on the march from Mhow to Poona, will, says the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, strike no Indian as extraordinary, for such cases are invariably disposed of in this way.

The Magistrate in remarking on the hardship endured by the accused in being kept in confinement for 100 days while the departments were corresponding about him, showed great sympathy for the soldier, but he had not a word of regret for the native who was killed. If being kept in *hajut* was a hardship to Gunner Daly, who was charged with a heinous crime, how much harder must be the fate of Mahamed Ali of Arrah, who has been sent to *hajut* because he cut from a *neem* tree a few branches more than he was ordered to cut.

1799. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* complains of an order issued by An objectionable order. Mr. Duke, District Magistrate of Howrah, forbidding the Subdivisional Officer of Ulubaria to allow

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
16th June 1901.

POWER AND GUAR-
DIAN,
16th June 1901.

HINDOO PATRIOT,
17th June 1901.

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PATRIKA,
21st June 1901.

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PATRIKA,
22nd June 1901.

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PATRIKA,
23rd June 1901.

compromise in cases sent up by the Police under sections 324-325, Indian Penal Code.

The *Patrika* declares the order to be improper, unjust and illegal, and regrets it should have been issued by one of the most sympathetic District Magistrates in Bengal.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
23rd June 1901.

1800. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* recalls the communication of its Burdwan correspondent to show that Mr. Foley, Mr. Foley of Burdwan. the District Magistrate, is a regular *ma-bap* of the Police, and did not pull well with Maulvi Abdul Kadir, his senior Deputy Magistrate, because that officer declined to treat a policeman as anything other than an ordinary human being. In a recent case Mr. Foley remarked that Maulvi Abdul Kadir was a confederate of the accused. The High Court has characterized the remark as irrelevant and uncalled for. The *Patrika* thinks it is unworthy of a District Officer to take advantage of his position as a superior to libel a subordinate, who is helpless and cannot go to a court of law to vindicate his character.

(c)—*Jails.*

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
16th June 1901.

1801. Quoting a passage from the recent Resolution on the Management of Punjab Jails in 1900, to the effect that the Flogging in jails. result of laying 30 consecutive stripes on one spot must be disastrous, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* expresses satisfaction that the Lieutenant-Governor has asked the Inspector-General of Jails what modification he can suggest. "Everyone who has a drop of humanity in him," says the *Patrika*, "cannot but approve of His Honour's suggestion."

(d)—*Education.*

BEHAR NEWS,
12th June 1901.

1802. The following paragraph appears in the *Behar News*:—

We hear with regret that His Highness the Introduction of fees in the Maharajah Bahadur of Darbhanga has ordered the Darbhanga Raj School. introduction of fees into the Raj School. It has been a great hardship to the people, and they have submitted a memorial to His Highness, which we hope will be taken into kind consideration.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

BENGALEE,
17th June 1901.

1803. The *Bengalee* wishes to know whether Mr. Ball Hill, who was brought out from England to supervise the suburban drainage works, which were stopped early in March 1900, is still in the service of the Corporation, and, if so, what his present duties are?

1804. The Arrah correspondent of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* complains of the nuisance caused by the bodies of dogs killed by the Municipal domes being allowed to lie by the roadside from morning till evening. He further complains of the imperfect street lighting, and asks, "Is it the sole duty of the Municipal Chairman and Vice-Chairman to collect taxes vigorously and neglect other business?"

(g)—*Railways and Communications, including Canals and Irrigation.*

BEHAR NEWS,
12th June 1901.

Congestion in traffic of tobacco on the Tirhoot State Railway.

1805. The following paragraph appears in the *Behar News*:—

A correspondent writes:—It is sad to see all the railway stations on the Tirhoot State Railway crammed with large consignments of tobacco which the unfortunate owners were unable to get despatched. They now have to be out on the unprotected station yards, exposed to sun and rain, while the owner does *puja* to the station Babu for trucks. I understand the Tirhoot State Railway are in no way to blame for this, the difficulty being with the East Indian Railway, who are unable to take over delivery on account of the insufficient wagons or "delivery" sheds at Mokameh.

1806. The *Bengalee* is sorry that complaints should be so rife against the management of the Eastern Bengal State Railway on which the comforts of female passengers do not seem to be as well consulted as they should be. It

Complaints against the Eastern Bengal State Railway.

is alleged that on the 12th instant, as some females were attempting to entrain at Sodepur, the train suddenly moved off and one woman narrowly escaped being run over. Although the Station Master and guard were standing by, they gave no help to the woman in any way.

At Sealdah the other day, finding the door of an intermediate class female compartment on the Darjeeling train damaged, the Eurasian staff is reported to have not only plied the occupants of the carriage with all sorts of relevant and irrelevant questions, but some of them actually attempted to realize from the ladies an exorbitant sum as the cost of the damage done.

BENGALEE,
16th June 1901.

(h).—General.

1807. The *East* joins its contemporary *Reis and Raiyet* in recognising the injustice done to the Muhammadan officers of the Executive Branch of the Provincial Civil Service by keeping them out of the "prize posts."

Grievances of Muhammadan members of the Executive Branch of the Civil Service.

REIS AND RAIYET,
8th June 1901.

"It is very curious that though Muhammadan officers, such as those who so ably presided for nearly twenty and forty years over the Magistratic (sic) and Suburban Police Courts of the Northern Presidency and Alipore, have shown a special aptitude and capacity for Judicial and Executive work, the Government is depriving Deputy Magistrates of the community of all the prize appointments."

1808. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, referring to Mr. Fanshawe's letter in the *Pioneer*, and the strained relation existing between the Punjab and the Supreme Governments, remarks that its sympathies are wholly with Lord Curzon in this matter. In the Patrika's opinion, the real cause of the grievance of the Punjab officials lies in the loss of their power in controlling frontier expeditions. Hitherto their local experience enabled them to overrule the Supreme Government, which was helpless in their hands. This led Lord Curzon to minimise the influence of the Punjab Government.

The *Patrika* had no notion that the Viceroy had created such deep and wide-spread discontent, and thinks it fortunate that Indians are not concerned in the fight between the officials and the head of the Supreme Government.

1809. The *Bengalee*, after careful consideration of the Government Resolution on the disfranchisement of the Bhagalpur Division, is forced to the conclusion that the moral victory lies with the Bhagalpur Landholders' Association. and that the policy of the Government in this matter has been weak and inconclusive, and, further, that, if Government had wished, it could easily have satisfied the legitimate claims of the Bhagalpur Division.

Disfranchisement of the Bhagalpur Division.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
16th June 1901.

BENGALEE,
17th June 1901.

1810. The following is taken from the *Indian Mirror* of the 18th June:—

Administration of the Noakhali district.

INDIAN MIRROR,
18th June 1901.

The cases of outrages on females in Noakhali continue to multiply. Four such cases are now before the local Courts. The whole administration of the district required overhauling. Mere patch-reform will leave Noakhali in its last condition worse than in its first.

1811. Referring to the recent remarks of the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab on the subject of flogging and the *Pioneer's* comments thereon, the *Indian Mirror* says: "This sort of punishment does not reform the criminal, and it debases the instrument. Not that only, it demoralizes the Magistrate who orders the punishment. The criminal laws in India are cruel to a degree, and they are being administered with a severity which is still more cruel in operation than the legislators intended."

Corporal punishment.

INDIAN MIRROR,
18th June 1901.

INDIAN EMPIRE,
18th June 1901.

1812. The *Indian Empire* repeats the following complaint from an Assam paper against the Subdivisional Officer of Habiganj:—A bench had been stolen from a school in

Bengaduba, and the Secretary of the School represented the matter to the police and the Subdivisional Officer, but with no result. He next appealed to the Deputy Commissioner asking for an enquiry into the matter. On this he was summoned by the Subdivisional Officer and threatened with prosecution for wasting the time of the officials by making representations. On this the *Empire* remarks that Mr. Salkeld had every right to prosecute the man if he had been guilty of making false representations, but what is he paid for if he does not hear the grievances of the people under his charge?

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
19th June 1901.

1813. Referring to the remark made by the Judge of Gorakhpore when trying the Ballia riot case, that he did not know why the "idiotic" notion? how to account for the "idiotic notion" of the people that Government is spreading the plague by scattering poison in the villages (*vide* paragraph 1764), the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* says that the very case the Judge was trying might furnish a key to the mystery. In searching the servant of Mr. Fox the people never meant any offence. Their motive was simply self-protection under a hallucination. One of the villagers, too, snatched a gun from the chaprassi. For this they were charged with dacoity.

The *Patrika* then refers to the Benares assault case and asks its readers to fancy a British Officer assaulting an Indian simply because the latter happened to be within reach. "Naturally the masses come to the conclusion that the rulers are alien, harsh and unsympathetic."

The *Patrika* concludes its article with a complaint of a case of cheating instituted in the Magistrate's Court at Krishnagar against a Baishnab of Chapra in the Nadia district, who had had the audacity to ask alms from the Joint-Magistrate of Berhampore on the ground that his house had been burnt. "Such proceedings as this," says the *Patrika*, "are repugnant to the people."

NOTE.—This Baishnab of Chapra has also been addressing begging letters to officers in Burma. The District Superintendent of Police of Nadia has already been asked to report on his doings and circumstances.

BENGALEE,
20th June 1901.

1814. In publishing the papers connected with the expulsion of one Bissoo Mull from the Dinapore Cantonment, the *Bengalee* A case of gross oppression. says, "A bad law has been administered by the local authorities in a high-handed and oppressive manner, so as to inflict grievous injustice and much hardship."

Bissoo Mull is a young man whose father has resided in Dinapore for sixty years. Suddenly one morning, Bissoo, without preliminary intimation of any kind, is told he must leave the cantonments within 24 hours. He was not furnished with the charges nor called upon to explain them. "In Dinapore, as in Noakhali, there appears to be an omnipotent police officer, and Bissoo Mull plainly says that the order of expulsion directed against him was based on the representations of a police officer who owed him money, for which, after repeated demands, he had been obliged to sue him in the Small Cause Court."

The *Bengalee* appeals to Lord Curzon for justice, and thinks the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce might with advantage move in the matter.

1815. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* thinks the deputation to Australia of Mr. Morland, Director of Agriculture, North-Western Provinces, is a step in the right direction. The deputation of Mr. Morland to Australia.

Viceroy's chief function is not, as he thinks, the defence of the Empire and the maintenance of authority; it is to see that every one in India does his duty.

The chief duty of the Magistrate is to make two blades of corn grow where there was one, to revive industry, to improve sanitation, to secure good markets for district produce, to adjust quarrels, &c. But his attention is engrossed in stamping out crimes. That will not save India.

1816. During November and December last, says the *Bengalee*, a Commission of Enquiry sat to look into the management of estates in charge of the Administrator-General of Bengal, and the finding was most unfavourable to Mr. Broughton. It was

BENGALEE,
22nd June 1901.

The Administrator-General.

anticipated that Government would have thought it necessary and advisable in the public interest to publish the report of the Commission in the Gazette. It is understood that the Government of India has informed Mr. Broughton that he must resign his office, but Mr. Broughton has been soliciting Government for an indemnity against any claims that may be made against him hereafter.

1817. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* regards as an enemy any Anglo-Indian statesman who approves such an unbearable and unnecessary burden on India as the maintenance of a White Garrison. Neither Mr. Skrine nor

The reduction of the White Garrison. Mr. Rees can be accepted as friends of India, for the former is opposed to any weakening of the garrison, and the latter would reduce it by one man.

This costly garrison is the cause of famines in India. It means mercenaries brought from foreign countries at enormous cost for the purpose of defending the country from external invasion and internal rebellion, an arrangement which emasculates the ruled, and deadens the higher sentiments of the rulers.

The presence of this garrison shows that the rulers have no faith in the loyalty of the ruled, and therefore no faith in the rule they have introduced here.

To testify to the loyalty of the Indians, when the Queen died, four lakhs of people assembled on the maidan to express their sorrow. In England such a crowd would not only have wept, but would have drunk gallons of liquor and made themselves merry. Here they only wept. The loyalty of India has been conclusively proved.

During the wars the White Garrison has been reduced by 20,000, and the Empire has not been endangered. If Lord Curzon will permanently reduce the white army by 20,000 men, the savings effected will put a stop to famines in India.

AMRITA BAZAR,
PATEKHA,
23rd June 1901.

1818. Reproducing from the *Kesari* of Poona, a letter complaining of Injustice regarding the salt pans. the injustice done to the owners of the salt pans by the amended permits issued by Government in 1885, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* says, "The Salt Act may be fairly characterised as a disgrace to the administration of justice in the country; the sooner the law is repealed or modified, the better."

AMRITA BAZAR
PATEKHA,
22nd June 1901.

III.—LEGISLATION.

1819. The *Indian Mirror* hears that the authorities in Travancore have A press legislation in Travancore. under contemplation a piece of legislation which is said to go one better than Lord Lytton's Vernacular Press Act, and which threatens to destroy the liberty of the press in that Hindu State.

The Resident, whose sanction is necessary, has already publicly stated that he does not care a straw what the papers say about him, and it is feared he will be only too ready to encourage and bless this reactionary measure.

The main provisions of the Bill include the licensing of newspapers, and the withdrawing of the same at the discretion of the Executive.

INDIAN MIRROR,
19th June 1901.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

1820. "Famine like plague," says the *East*, "has come to stay with us." Famine and water scarcity. Famine is still doing havoc in Western India, and there is scarcity in Bengal which in some parts, especially Tangail and Kapasia in the Mymensingh district, lately developed into famine. And there was water-famine in that district, which would have assumed dreadful proportions but for the recent copious downpours."

For the water-famine the *East* holds the Government mainly responsible. The Government with the resources of the road cess at its disposal should provide the necessary reservoirs to store up sufficient water for the year's consumption.

EAST
8th June 1901.

Formerly it was considered a great merit to excavate tanks and reservoirs, and the work was done by the wealthy zamindars. Now Government has emasculated the wealthy people and forced them to become absentee landlords; and Rai Bahadurships and Rajaships are conferred on those who patronise the turf or maintain hospitals and schools.

BENGALEE,
23rd June 1901.

1821. The *Bengalee* has received a copy of a petition submitted to the Sanitary Commissioner by the inhabitants of several riparian villages, again raising the question of the pollution of river water, and trusts the Sanitary Commissioner will bestow upon it that consideration which it richly deserves. In spite of the standing orders of Government, the mills on either side of the river throw jute waste and kerosine-oil into the water, thus rendering it foul. Are the mill authorities empowered to do this because British capital is sunk in their enterprise?

HINDOO PATRIOT,
13th June 1901.

1822. In a leading article on this subject, the *Hindoo Patriot* dilates on the prominent position held by Indian arts and industries in ancient times, and attributes their present moribund condition to loss of patronage consequent on loss of political power, and to the importation of articles of foreign manufacture.

What India needs for the resuscitation and development of her industries is private enterprise, capital and the creation of an export trade under the supervision of Indian capitalists. If scientific education can effect this, without giving any literary training to the artisans of the country, the writer would strongly advocate its introduction. But if it should be the means only of supplying students of our universities with *scientific* cap and gown—the *ne plus ultra* of an Indian graduate's existence—the writer believes that such an education would only increase the financial *bleeding* of the country.

HINDOO PATRIOT,
14th June 1901.

1823. In view of the difference of opinion among English statesmen, both here and at home, as to the true meaning and The Proclamation of 1858. purport of the Proclamation of 1858, the *Hindoo Patriot* is of opinion that the time has come when a declared and authoritative construction should be given to the proclamation, so that no dispute may arise on the subject. The paper further advocates an immediate enquiry into the reason why the solemn pledges contained in the proclamation have not been fulfilled.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
15th June 1901.

1824. As a solution of the carters' and *ghariwallahs'* strike, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* suggests that these men be officially informed that they must no longer meekly submit to blackmailing by the police; that they must support charges of corruption brought to light, and that the utmost severity be exercised in dealing with police convicted of extortion. Lastly, that either the S. P. C. A. be abolished, or that a better class of men be employed in it.

POWER AND GUAR-
DIAN,
16th June 1901.

1825. *Power and Guardian* says its sympathies were entirely with the *ghariwallahs* and cartmen in the recent strike in Calcutta. Their complaints are neither unfounded nor baseless. The *puharawallah* and the petty Police officer find a delight in making their power felt by carters, porters, hawkers and the like. The prosecutions of the S. P. C. A. are often persecutions. The officers of the Society, though not handsomely paid, live handsomely, for they live on these carters and hackney drivers. Most of them have a regular *bundobust* with the owners of carts and carriages, and, in addition, they are always on the look-out for new victims. The conduct of these officers and the Magistrates is cruelty to men.

"If it be cruelty to work a lame horse, it is far more cruel to snatch a man or woman from the bosom of the family, or to tear a mother from her children, simply for increasing the wealth of the wealthy planters—it is undoubtedly more cruel to make operatives work like machines to the detriment of their health, or even to tax the salt of the poor."

1826. In the course of an article on famine and poverty, the *East* complains that litigation is answerable for the growing destitution among not only the lower middle

EAST,
15th June 1901.

Litigation.

class, known as the *bhadralokes*, but the entire population of Bengal. It has led to the increase of crime and criminals and to absorption in the business of the law of the best intellects of the country—intelleccts that would otherwise have enriched any other profession. It reserves for another article discussion of the remedies for this state of things.

1827. The following is an extract from the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* :—

AMRITA BAZAR,
PATRIKA,
16th June 1901.

An American gentleman who reads our paper American view of English rule. because he takes an interest in the affairs of India, writes to us referring to the despondent tone in one of our articles :—

"I think you are unduly pessimistic. There is nothing more sure and irresistible than Nature's law of compensation. This outburst of violence into which England has plunged is, in the very nature of things, bound to wear itself out, and the more quickly because of its very violence. The day of reckoning is at hand, and the next British Government will have all it can attend to, to set things straight in England. Then I see the chance coming for India and its people, under a different rule from what now insidiously crushes its energies."

There is no doubt that it will be all right in the end. But the rulers have not yet discerned the fact that the nation is losing fast its manhood."

1828. *Power and Guardian* says, "A Sub-Inspector of Police is dreaded by all and sundry, even to the highest in the land."

POWER AND GUAR-
DIAN]
16th June 1901.

An European planter and a Police Sub-Inspector. But if he is a terror to the Indians, he excites not the least concern in the *topeewallah*. In Cachar there is a tea garden called Majigram. One day recently a Sub-Inspector of Police in uniform was riding by on duty, when he was met by a European, evidently a planter. The *Sahib* forced the Sub-Inspector to dismount as a mark of respect to him. *Power and Guardian* thinks this man must be unfit to be a Sub-Inspector when he allows himself to be forced to dismount by a stranger and thereby dishonour his cloth. What he should have done was to give a few reminding cuts with his whip to the daring white, who was at best a traitor to his King for his action in humiliating an officer in uniform.

The matter was reported to the District Superintendent of Police, but no notice has been taken.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
18th June 1901.

1829. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* has no doubt that Anglo-Indian officials Overworked officials in India. from the highest to the lowest are overworked almost to death, because they have undertaken to accomplish an impossible feat, that of ruling a vast country without the help of the children of the soil. If the authorities had accepted with good grace the policy of local-self government introduced by Lord Ripon, they might have secured some relief for themselves, as well as satisfied to some extent the political aspirations of the Indians.

These hard-worked officials did not thank Lord Ripon for his benevolent intention to secure them relief. They desired power, and have obtained it at the cost of overwork. Another reason offered for heavy work is that officials have to produce big results from insufficient means which is due to the Government being poor. Its resources are mainly used to maintain a most efficient standing army and the costliest rule in the world.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
18th June 1901.

1830. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* in another long article on Lord Curzon's recent temperance speech says, "Lord Curzon Is Lord Curzon an angel or a Diplomat? preaches that the Indians should be governed under Christian principles, and he would himself have

done the same if he were given the opportunity. But his Lordship knows that he is powerless, he can only offer advice, but he has not the authority to carry out his ideas. When Lord Curzon punished the Rangoon soldiers, his Lordship had to explain his conduct and practically offer apologies."

Quoting Lord Curzon's words, "We are not here merely to wave the British flag," the *Patrika* remarks that that is just what everybody is doing here. "Where is the Magistrate who has tried to put a stop to litigation which is eating into the vitals of the nation, or who has made two blades of corn grow where there was one blade? Where is he that has reclaimed an unprofitable marsh for cultivation, revived an industry, or introduced a

sanitary improvement. His main business consists in stamping out crime. The Magistrate and the police are here only to wave the British flag."

The *Patrika* goes on to show that the Viceroy himself has no time to give to the internal administration of the country, as he is principally occupied in keeping control over the Foreign Office and dealing with the Ameer and the frontier tribes.

"Lord Curzon earnestly urges his countrymen to guard the good name of the British in India. And how unpatriotically have some of them sullied it. They with their superior civilization drink and get drunk, while the Indians look on in wonder. There are men belonging to their country who shoot Indians dead. Unfortunately they have not always preserved the British name from sully or reproach. On the other hand, their indiscreet acts have led the masses to entertain the notion that the British Government is trying to poison the whole nation! Surely they are the greatest enemies of their country's civilization and religion, who have given occasion to a large section of the Indian people to nourish such monstrous and idiotic sentiments."

"Lord Curzon manfully admits that our duty is to hold this country with justice, righteousness and good-will. We wish His Excellency had said something on the other phase of the question, namely, whether that duty, according to him, is performed or not. What is His Excellency's belief on this point? Is this country governed under the principles of 'righteousness, justice and good-will?' Perhaps his belief is that the country is not governed so well as it ought to be. For if he had that notion, he would have never held that it would be dangerous to weaken the white garrison of India."

BENGALEE,
19th June 1901.

1831. The following telegram appears in the *Bengalee* of the 19th June:—

Conduct of the British soldiers
guarding the Boer camp at Trichi-
nopoly.

The woman, concerned in the incident
already reported, died a few days after the event.

A couple of days ago, another soldier came in
conflict with a few villagers under similar circumstances, and in the alter-
cation which followed, the soldier fared worse and got thrashed. The
Divisional Magistrate goes to the seat of the offence for investigation. No
evidence has yet been recorded. The two incidents have created quite an
alarm. None have yet been arrested.

NOTE.—*Vide* para. 1772.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
19th June 1901.

1832. The following is taken from the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*:—

Mr. Nundy.

We welcome Mr. A. Nundy, the Congress agent,
who arrived in Calcutta day before yesterday.

The main object of his visit is to collect money for the British Congress Committee. The Committee is likely to be shortly re-organized, but it cannot live upon nothing. We, therefore, hope that every well-wisher of the Congress will give every help to Mr. Nundy to raise the funds required for the purpose. We need hardly say that the British Committee is absolutely needed for the amelioration of the political condition of the people.

BENGALEE,
19th June 1901.

1833. The following telegram appears in the *Bengalee* of the 19th instant:—

Christian women defiling the
temple of Juggannath.

Puri, 17th June.—The whole Hindu community
here has been shaken with consternation and
amazement at the conduct of Mrs. Sen, the wife of the Civil Medical Officer
of Puri, and some Christian women. The non-Hindus have got no right to
enter into the temple of Juggannath and scoff and jeer at the religious
ceremonies of the poor Hindus, who, it seems, cannot feel quiet even in their
own temple. Yet the said Christian ladies entered the temple under base
deception simply to scoff at the sincerity of the Hindus and to see the fun.
Public excitement is at the highest pitch, and it is only the prompt action of
the Police which has prevented a serious breach of the peace. Hindus here
feel bitterly that they cannot perform their harmless religious ceremonies
without foreign intrusion which peeps in to jeer and laugh at them.

NOTE.—The Magistrate of Puri writes that this paragraph is "pure invention." A Pundit of the temple
escorted the lady and was assaulted by other Pandits for doing so. The occurrence was not known to
the general community.

1834. The *Statesman* writes that the British Committee of the Indian National Congress has been dissolved for want of funds. This, says the *Bengalee*, is not correct.

The British Committee of the Congress. The Committee is still in existence, and the funds, so far from dwindling down to nothing, as is alleged, showed a remarkable increase last year. It is possible that at its own instance the Committee will be reconstituted so as to introduce fresh blood; but come what may, it is bound to be kept up, for, without it, the National Congress will find itself paralysed in the carrying out of its propaganda.

BENGALEE,
22nd June 1901.

1835. The London correspondent of the *Bengalee* proposes holding a Congress meeting in London next year when the Coronation of the King will draw crowds of visitors to the capital from all parts of the world. He says a combined Hindoo and Muhammadan Demonstration in London would convince many hesitating members of Parliament of the force of public opinion in India.

BENGALEE,
23rd June 1901.

The *Bengalee* says the idea is not new. It was mooted in 1892, but the practical difficulties were found to be immense. It agrees, however, that the time has now come when an effort should be made to hold a session of the Congress in London. It will involve a heavy sacrifice, but no nation ever won the priceless boon of self-government without sacrifices. The *Bengalee* questions the wisdom of holding it at the time of the Coronation, as that great event with its attendant festivities will keep all other matters out of the papers.

OFFICE OF THE INSPR.-GENERAL
OF POLICE, L. P.,
WRITERS' BUILDINGS,
The 29th June 1901.

F. C. DALY,

Asst. to Inspr.-General of Police, L. P.

